Library Letterhead

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Name

Month XX, 2009 (208) xxx-xxx

Check out [Your Library] for print-alternative resources

Do you or someone you love require reading alternatives because of a loss in vision or other physical restriction? Whether the need is permanent or temporary, [your library] can help by providing timely and interesting materials for recreational, cultural, or educational pursuits.

In addition to offering [large print books, audio materials in both cassette and CD-ROM format, music, Playaways, eAudiobooks, DVDs, etc.], we provide [help downloading eAudiobooks, community outreach, direct delivery service to patrons who are homebound, etc.]," said Library Director [name]. [In addition, when we participate in the Big Read, Let's Talk About It, or other book discussions, the selected book is available in large print and audio formats.]

"As our population gets older, we all want to know ways we can help ourselves or someone we love keep reading," said Library Director [name]. "And with 1 out of 28 Americans over age 40 facing vision loss or blindness, according to the National Eye Institute, we want to make the community aware of our resources for those requiring print alternatives.

"We also can sign our patrons up with the Talking Book Service (TBS), a program offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries. TBS provides thousands of books for people unable to read standard printed material. Even better, TBS services are provided free of charge, including the mailing of reading materials and playback machines."

And it's not just people with vision problems who can use the TBS service. Anyone who can't hold a book, turn pages, or has been diagnosed by a professional with a reading disability due to an organic brain dysfunction can use the free service. Over 65,000 audio books are available, as well as free subscriptions to numerous magazines, access to Braille books and magazines, and descriptive videos and DVDs. In addition, the audio book catalog is recorded and all materials can be searched and ordered via the online catalog. [Your library] even has a replacement [cassette or digital] player for TBS patrons if theirs breaks.

For more information on the services and resources that [your library] offers for patrons requiring reading alternatives, stop by at [address], contact [name/phone number] or check out our website at [www.yourURL].